

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Hair et al

#6

Application No.: 09/261,221

RECEIVED

Filed: March 3, 1999

DEC 08 2000

Group: 2873

Title: OPTICAL VEND-SENSING
SYSTEM FOR CONTROL OF VENDING
MACHINE

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

Examiner: Lester

* * * *

December 8, 2000

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Attached is a Form PTO-1449 listing the enclosed documents.

The enclosed documents were uncovered in a prior art search with respect to a related invention. None of the references appears more relevant than references already of record. Nonetheless, Applicants and Applicants' representatives are submitting them to be certain to comply with the duty of candor under Rule 56.

The attached sketch prepared by the Applicants shows a conventional sensor system which came into Applicants' possession. The system has no diffuser or collector and appears to operate on a point-to-point beam concept. This appears no more relevant than other references of record.

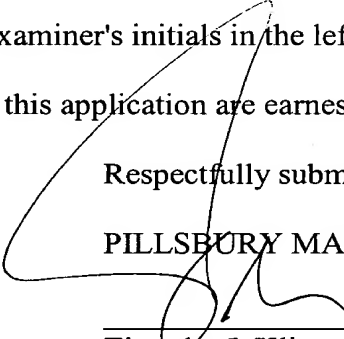
This Information Disclosure Statement is intended to be in full compliance with the rules, but should the Examiner find any part of its required content to have been

omitted, prompt notice to that effect is earnestly solicited, along with additional time under Rule 97(f), to enable Applicant to comply fully.

Consideration of the foregoing and enclosures plus the return of a copy of the herewith Form PTO-1449 with the Examiner's initials in the left column per MPEP 609 along with an early Action on the merits of this application are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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